

FEATURED

The Zekelman Holocaust Center's 39th Anniversary Benefit

Dec 12, 2023



Ben Sasse during the keynote address

Courtesy of the HC

“We are so fortunate for the support of our incredible community”

The Zekelman Holocaust Center (The HC) celebrated its 39th Anniversary Benefit last month at Detroit’s Huntington Place. Lifelong Detroiters Cynthia and Marvin Zucker were honored for their unwavering support of Holocaust education as an antidote to

counter rising antisemitism.



Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, Gary Karp, Marvin Zucker, Cynthia Zucker, Dr. Stephen Grant and Alan Zekelman

Courtesy of the HC

Against the backdrop of the horrors of Oct. 7, the center’s flagship fundraising event brought together a diverse community united in solidarity, including Holocaust survivors and their families, business and educational leaders, philanthropists and war veterans.

Over the course of the evening, attendees remembered the past, celebrated achievements and looked toward a hopeful future. In January 2024, The Center’s new permanent exhibit opens with updated scholarship and technology, further centering personal stories of those who experienced the Holocaust to humanize history’s darkest period.

“The danger of hate is palpable,” Cynthia Zucker, a past president of the Highland Lakes campus of Oakland Community College, told the crowd. “No other entity in Detroit does a better job teaching the public where hate can lead than The Zekelman Holocaust



Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, CEO of The Zekelman Holocaust Center

Courtesy of the HC

Center.

“By hearing the personal stories of Holocaust survivors,” she continued, “we come to understand the power of a human being’s individual choice to commit acts of good or evil, [and gain] deeper understanding of — and commitment to — civic engagement and to becoming active participants in our democracy.”

During the evening, The HC announced a major gift from the William Davidson Foundation in support of the exhibit renovation.



Holocaust Survivor and Board Member Ed Malinowski
Courtesy of the HC

“The William Davidson Foundation gift supports our Center as a premier destination in Southeast Michigan where people can learn the lessons of the Holocaust in a meaningful and relevant way,” said Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, CEO of The Zekelman Holocaust Center. “We are so fortunate for the support of our incredible community to advance work that has been shown to influence communities to resist acts of hate and discrimination.”

For more information about The Zekelman Holocaust Center, visit www.holocaustcenter.org.



Jewish War Veterans Steve Haas and Marc Manson

Courtesy of the HC